#### Lowell & Claudia Wertz PO Box 1344 Kigoma, Tanzania

September 2018

Dear Friends,

I was a child in Sunday school when I was taught a little rhyme. "Only one life will soon be passed – only what's done for Christ will last."

Claudia and I were working our way through seminary by staying in homes and taking care of children in a wealthy community north of Chicago. We met many people who did not believe in an afterlife - only in the past and present. They believed that death is the end and a person only "lives on" in the memories of loved ones.

I gently shared my belief that without an afterlife, even this life has no meaning or purpose. I believe loved ones, who have received eternal life from Jesus, will live together forever. Death creates only a short time of separation followed by reunion. One man said to me, with thoughts of his children and tears in his eyes, "I would give everything I have, if I could have that."

He understood. Everything is really nothing without lives that last forever. If being a fading memory is all you have, you have nothing. Jesus said, "What does it profit a man to gain the whole world but lose his own soul?"

Missions is taking hope to people. Missions tells and shows people there is a God of love who wants to give us eternal life. The eternal, pre-existing Jesus took on flesh and lived among us over 2,000 years ago. He paid our debt, created by our sin, when He died on a cross. If we trust Jesus, we have meaningful purpose and a wonderful future in heaven.

Missions is about us doing our Father's business. The Good News that eternal life is possible must be shared with everyone. Missions is a search and rescue effort.

Mission work is an everlasting investment of ourselves in others. It was Jesus' last command, "Go into all the world and preach the Gospel." Missions is important.

Missions is a matter of life and death. Where are the ambulances of Christianity rushing to the emergency? Where are the sirens and red lights of urgency going off in our churches and in our hearts?

Let's do what will last! Let's obey. Let's make our lives count -- forever.

Lowell + Claudia

Love,



# Joy in the Harvest®



A BIG STEP FORWARD

### Radio JOY On-the-Air LIVE!

We have drifted away from being fishers of men to being keepers of the aquarium.

Paul Harvey Radio Personality 1918 - 2009

In a whirlwind four day trip, Jon and Karen Hull from KSBJ Radio in Houston came to help us take our radio station live.

We had rewired the studio and the Hulls brought the remaining two pieces of equipment we needed to tie land and cell phone lines into our studio. After some last minute technical adjustments and intensive training of staff by Jon, on July 19 at 2PM, we had our first live broadcast. It was cause for celebration by the whole staff and even all our listeners. We now have several programs live every day and continue to develop this aspect of our broadcasting.



Our first live broadcast was only 15 minutes long but took two phone calls. It was great fun.

### CHECKLIST

#### ✓ USA Office Address

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#### **WORKERS FOR THE HARVEST**

We are so blessed to have Terry & Ruth Ann Miller helping us in Kigoma for eleven weeks this summer.

Terry and Ruth Ann have made five trips to Tanzania to work with us. Terry is a retired mechanical engineer and has worked on the plumbing for all our buildings. They received donations from their two churches



Terry and Ruth Ann Miller

to purchase pipe fittings to bring out. He is now completing the permanent water system for our ministry site. It has a 23,000 gallon water tank, 4 pressure pumps, and provisions for a fire hose. Ruth Ann has been helping roll yarn for distribution to the refugee camp and women's groups, and making curtains and quilts. They are dear friends and fellow workers for the Lord.

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## **News from Africa**

#### **A Cup of Cool Water**

When the water department could not pay their electric bill, their water pumps stopped working. This created a crisis that has lasted months. To help some of our neighbors, we have been pumping water from our well and giving it freely to people. Most people have to carry water great distances or buy water from those selling it by the bucket.



# Claudia Speaks to Women in Refugee Camp



On July 15, Claudia spoke at the Nyarugusu Refugee Camp that holds over 150,000. She was the speaker for Kipendano (UMW) Women's Day and spoke on the subject of "Where is Home?" Many responded to the altar call. She was presented a gift of a live chicken.

# Radio JOY Sponsors First Ever Girls' Soccer Tournament

August 18 was the final for the first soccer tournament for school girls. The last four teams (three from secondary schools and one from a primary school) battled it out in hard fought games. To everyone's amazement, the young primary school student team won! First and second place teams were invited to come to the radio studio to be honored on special radio programs.





**QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS** 

## What is Going On At the Community Center?

Q. The road outside the your site is jammed with cars and motorcycles. What is going on at the Community Center?

(asked by a Kigoma missionary)

A. After a series of horrific traffic accidents, including one that claimed nine lives, we suggested a traffic safety seminar be held in our



Mwenge and Lowell with the top government officials in Kigoma.

Community Center. The Tanzanian President had expressed his concern over the accidents and the regional government embraced the idea. A week long training event was held for area drivers. It was standing room only — our biggest crowd ever. All the top government officials participated. Lowell addressed the group on the final day — encouraging responsibility for safe driving. H

"The people walking in darkness have seen a great light... they rejoice before you as people rejoice at the harvest." Isaiah 9:2,3